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LANDSAT Follow - On Investigation Program #21260

### Program Progress Report #3

Reporting Period Coverage: March 19, 1976  
June 19, 1976

Submitted by: Ira S. Latimer, Jr.  
Project Principal Investigation

Date Submitted:

(E76-10445) CONTRIBUTION OF ERTS-B TO  
NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION AND RECREATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT IN WEST VIRGINIA Progress  
Report, 19 Mar. - 19 Jun. 1976 (West  
Virginia Dept. of Natural Resources) 18 p G3/43 00445  
N76-29675  
MC \$3.50  
Unclassified



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
CHARLESTON 25306

IRA S. LATIMER, Jr.  
Director

NASA Scientific and Technical  
Information Facility  
Post Office Box 33  
College Park, Maryland 20740

Attention: Earth Resources

Subject: The third LANDSAT Follow-On Investigation  
Program #21260 Progress Report

Enclosed is a copy of the third Progress Report  
covering the reporting period from March 19, 1976--June 19,  
1976.

If you have any questions or desire additional  
information, do not hesitate to contact this office.

Ira S. Latimer, Jr.

Ira S. Latimer, Jr.  
Principal Investigator *etc.*

ISL/mlk

CONTRIBUTION OF ERTS-1 TO NATURAL  
RESOURCE PROTECTION AND  
RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN  
WEST VIRGINIA



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
CHARLESTON 25306

IRA S. LATIMER, Jr.  
Director

Receiving Officer  
Building 16  
Goddard Space Flight Center  
Greenbelt, Maryland 20771

Attention: Code 902.6

Subject: The third LANDSAT Follow-On Investigation  
Program #21260 Progress Report

Enclosed are nine (9) copies of the third Progress Report covering the reporting period from March 19, 1976--June 19, 1976.

If you have any questions or desire additional information do not hesitate to contact this office.

*Ira S. Latimer Jr.*

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Ira S. Latimer, Jr.  
Principal Investigator

ISL/mlk

07



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
CHARLESTON 25306

IRA S. LATIMER, Jr.  
Director

MEMORANDUM TO: Ira S. Latimer, Jr.  
Director

FROM: Michael Luke  
LANDSAT Program Coordinator

SUBJECT: The LANDSAT Program  
Progress Reports

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NASA has requested the third progress report for the LANDSAT Program involving the time period from March 19, 1976 to June 19, 1976. These reports will be made every three months during the period of performance part of the project. Some of the technical guidance for the reports are coming from the Earth Satellite Corporation.

GML/jmk

Enclosure

21260

RECEIVED

JUL 30 1976

SIS/902.6

## I. Problems

No significant problems occurred during the fourth time period. The program's primary projects have been outlined and each one has been started in one form or another.

## II. Accomplishments and Significant Results

The LANDSAT Program has two main categories for the projects which will be done during this contract.

The first category involves the primary projects which will basically be done by the Earth Satellite Corporation. The satellite imagery will be used more with these, because of the expertise required to interpret the details necessary to make the project's information useful.

The secondary category has all the projects that the Department of Natural Resources will do or sponsor to be done by graduate students or other agencies. These projects represent the start of the Department's objective to develop a team of remote sensing technicians who will work on "interpretive" projects for the different divisions of the DNR.

At the present time the Department of Natural Resources is cooperating or sponsoring five graduate students to do research for either Master's or Doctor's Degrees, using remote sensing techniques as an inventory tool. Most of the projects concern forest vegetation cover type studies of state parks or forests.

### A. Primary Projects

#### 1. A Satellite Image Photomosaic of West Virginia

This project is designed to use 1973 LANDSAT Imagery to construct a color composite photomosaic of West Virginia. The basic mosaic has been made and preliminary interpretations have begun. Some of the delineations which have started include: a) State boundaries, b) latitude-longitude coordinates, c) cultural information, d) preliminary ecozones, e) a classification system for interpreted information. The mosaic should be finished within 6 weeks.

Plans are now being made to utilize the photomosaic product as a resource data base for at least three state agencies. These agencies or divisions of agencies will hopefully utilize the mosaic product in

forms of educational literature for the public.

A proposal is being organized to present to the West Virginia Department of Commerce, concerning ways in which the photomosaic can be used as a base map for types of information such as: a) travel brochures, b) specific interest brochures, c) industrial development study information, d) educational posters and charts.

Another proposal will be submitted to the DNR for the utilization of satellite imagery and U-2 photography for information brochures and posters concerning state parks and forests. The brochures should contain color composite or color infrared pictures with important features outlined.

The West Virginia University Forestry School is doing a project concerning a "Forest Atlas" of West Virginia. The photomosaic color composite will also be used in various ways for this study.

## 2. The Wetlands Classification Project

The EarthSat Company has gathered information from the DNR concerning the location of the wetlands in Harrison County. The DNR wetland information was presented on topographical quad sheets.

The average area of a wetland in West Virginia is less than five acres. This necessitates the need for using the U-2 color infrared photography for the interpretation. Wetlands have been delineated from U-2 photography in the Canaan Valley Area of Tucker County. This information will be used to help locate additional ones. A field trip is scheduled within the next two weeks to survey some existing wetlands from a low flying airplane. The total wetlands project should be finished in six weeks.

## 3. The Forest Vegetation Cover Type Project

Summer and early fall imagery from the "Pocohontas County" frame of satellite imagery is being used to delineate the five different forest vegetation cover types within the region south of Clarksburg, West Virginia.

At the present time background literature concerning forest cover types is being reviewed and the imagery to be used for the project will be used in the West Virginia "Forest Atlas" which is being organized by West Virginia University.

4. The Canaan Valley - Dolly Sods Project

This project now has three main objectives which are: a) to provide ecological information for the naturalist programs at Blackwater Falls and Canaan Valley State Parks, b) to provide information about a wilderness area including Dolly Sods, which is being considered for purchase as a preserved natural area, and c) to provide valuable ecological information about the "natural significants" of the Canaan Valley Area.

The completion of the interpretive phase of the project is dependent upon the accuracy of the delineations made from the U-2 CIR photography. The accuracy will be checked by the use of aerial survey work from a low flying airplane, comparison of reference information about the area, and ground truth information. A field trip is planned for the week of June 21st to verify the accuracy of the work that has been done.

The satellite imagery will be used to show regional considerations of the area at a scale of 1:250,000 such as ecozones, cities, water bodies, and unique natural features.

5. The Remote Sensing Workshops

The majority of the time involved in the last three months of the program was spent in organizing and conducting the two remote sensing workshops which were held in Morgantown, (May 10-14), and Charleston, West Virginia, (May 24-28, 1976).

Each workshop was designed to complete the following objectives:

- A. Providing potential users of remote sensing imagery for environmental considerations with a basic knowledge of applications and limitations.

- B. To bring together personnel from diverse governmental and private sectors for exchange of information and techniques which can be applied to current needs.
- C. To expand the remote sensing users knowledge of remote sensing imagery as a tool in natural resource assessment and management.
- D. To give the participants references of some of the types of remote sensing information available and an idea of the past, present, or future projects which might involve the usage of some type of remote sensing data in West Virginia and the surrounding area.

The participants of the workshops were from various government agencies, colleges and universities, and private businesses concerned with the use of natural resources. The majority of the attendants were technical type people who should be directly involved with the use of remote sensing.

Their educational backgrounds varied from engineering and teaching, to forestry and landscape architecture. With such a variety of participants, the workshop presentations had to be introduced at an intermediate level.

It is a possibility that additional remote sensing workshops can be held in the future. The interest for these workshops will develop more, as the LANDSAT Program progresses.

#### 6. Strip Mine Inventory Project

There is a growing interest in the State concerning digital and computer analysis systems capabilities for land use projects. The State is rapidly changing due to industrial, and natural resource development. It is very important that this development be "monitored" effectively for decision making purposes.

Since the issue of surface mining is of prime importance to the development of West Virginia, this project has been re-organized to demonstrate digital

analysis techniques for LANDSAT Imagery. It is hoped that this type of capability can be injected into the regulatory system of strip mine development in the State.

The Strip Mine Inventory Project is scheduled to be done the last week of July, 1976, using the General Electric Image 100, or the Bendix Digital Analysis System for the processing of the computer compatible tapes. The "interest area" for the project will be McDowell County which is located along the border of southern West Virginia.

This project will directly involve a representative of the DNR for the purpose of learning how to do the analysis.

The classification system for information obtained from the tapes will include such things as:

- a. Area estimates of the strip mines,
- b. Location of the mines,
- c. A category classification designating:
  - (1) an active mine,
  - (2) a finished and reclaimed mine,
  - (3) an unreclaimed and abandoned mine.

Imagery and reference information is being gathered concerning the conditions of the strip mines in McDowell County for the time period from July - December of 1975.

#### 7. The Coal Refuse and Dam Control Project

This project will work in conjunction with the strip mine inventory project. The McDowell County area imagery will be digitally analyzed to determine such things as:

- a. The location of the water impoundments,
- b. The area of the impoundments,
- c. The vegetative conditions surrounding the impoundments.

The results of the digital analysis will be compared with the results from the manual interpretation of other forms of imagery, such as CIR U-2 photography, to determine technique capabilities and differences.

### 8. An Ecological Interpretation Project

The representatives from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service have started to organize the materials and techniques to be used for the ecological interpretation of existing or proposed water impoundment projects in West Virginia. Remote sensing techniques and ground truth information will be used to inventory the 3-10 thousand acre sites. Some of the interpretive techniques and capabilities which were discussed at the Morgantown Remote Sensing Workshop can be used for the inventories.

The imagery to be used for the projects will include ASCS black and white photography, SCS black and white photography, U-2 CIR photography, low altitude color photography, satellite color composites at 1:250,000 scale, and possibly low altitude CIR photography.

A demonstration project has been preliminarily outlined to show capabilities of CIR U-2 photography and satellite imagery. The interpreted information will be displayed on a CIR photography overlay map and a satellite enhancement at 1:250,000 scale.

If the Fish and Wildlife Service can organize and develop their own remote sensing inventory capabilities, then the LANDSAT Program will de-emphasize the proposed demonstration project and shift more emphasis to a different application.

### B. Secondary Projects

#### 1. Blackwater Falls State Park

This project involves the use of color photography, color infrared aerial photography, and satellite imagery to inventory a defined region including Blackwater Falls State Park.

The primary interpretation of the 1:24,000 CIR photograph has been completed and is being used in the park's naturalist program. The photographic overlay product and color slides have been used in a training session which was held for all the naturalists working at State facilities. The presentations

at the naturalist's training session included information concerning satellite imagery, color infrared photography, basic remote sensing inventory techniques of natural resources using different types of imagery, and vegetative mapping procedures. The naturalists seemed very enthusiastic about the possibility of using remote sensing imagery and techniques in their programs.

The Department of Natural Resources believes that the educational concepts concerning ecology and conservation can be "effectively" taught in the State parks and forest facilities. The use of remote sensing techniques and applications could possibly revolutionize these interpretive programs.

## 2. State Parks

Other State Parks and Forests that will be studied this year include: Babcock, Watoga, Pipestem, Lost River, Holly River, and North Bend State Parks. Along with Cooper's Rock, Greenbrier, and Kanawha State Forests.

## 3. Cooperation With The West Virginia Nature Conservancy Project

The Nature Conservancy Project is inventorying unique ecological areas in West Virginia. The results from this study will be organized into a computerized resource data base.

The classification system that the Conservancy is using has been reviewed and considered for use with the LANDSAT Program results. Modifications will have to be made, but the LANDSAT resources data will be computerized so that agencies in the State will be able to use it more effectively.

The primary reason for not setting up a classification system at this phase of the LANDSAT Program has been because the research projects have not developed to the point of demonstrating the variety of information which will be received as results of the projects.

## 4. Overlay Maps

The Department of Natural Resources is currently doing overlay maps on satellite color composite

images at 1:500,000 scale of the Eastern Central Mountainous Section of the State. These overlays will contain information such as: county boundaries, major cities, major water bodies, unique natural areas, and vegetation cover type zones. The county boundary overlay is the only one that is finished.

5. Public Relations Projects

- a. Articles have been put in 14 newspapers throughout the State announcing the establishment of the LANDSAT Program.
- b. An article was published in the June issue of the "Wonderful West Virginia Magazine" concerning the LANDSAT Program and the use of color infrared high altitude photography. (Enclosures)
- c. Public relations presentations have been made to various groups in the State.

6. Slide Programs

The Department of Natural Resources is currently organizing two slide-video cassette tape programs which will be available in the Department of Natural Resources Library for use by DNR personnel and other State agencies.

- a. Infrared Photography - (20-30 minutes - 50% completed)

This slide program will explain the principles, techniques, and applications of infrared photography. The program should be completed by August, 1976.

- b. The West Virginia LANDSAT Program - (20-30 minutes - 50% completed)

This presentation will explain the objectives of the West Virginia Program and give basic information on some of the work being done in other areas of the country.

7. Color Infrared High Altitude Photography Coverage of the State

CIR photography taken in December, 1973, has

been received by the DNR. This imagery, which is available to other agencies, will provide coverage for most of the State on 1:120,000 scale. Some of the 9" X 9" transparencies and 35mm sectional slides of the U-2 frames are being used for vegetation studies.

8. Potential Secondary Projects

a. An Inventory of Cooper's Rock State Forest

The project has been approved and will follow the enclosed outline.

b. A Turkey Habitat Study

The Wildlife Division of the DNR is currently involved with a research project using telemetry methods to monitor the activities of wild turkeys in Pocahontas County, West Virginia.

The LANDSAT Program hopes to use CIR photography to determine the natural conditions of the areas inhabited by the turkeys. This information will give the biologist a better idea of the natural environment of West Virginia's most challenging game bird.

c. Using Aerial Photography and Satellite Imagery for Displays of Information Presented by the West Virginia Department of Commerce

The DNR is currently gathering information and organizing a proposal to be presented to the Commerce Department for utilizing imagery for displaying important information in travel brochures, state park directories, and on outline maps and charts.

III. Publications

No publications have been made at this time.

IV. Recommendations

No program recommendations can be made at this time.

PROJECT AT COOPER'S ROCK STATE FOREST

INTRODUCTION

West Virginia's state forests are very important to the people of West Virginia and visitors that come to the "Mountain State." They serve in a multiple-use capacity of the natural resources which include the following:

1. The management and improvement of habitat for fish and game.
2. The demonstration of growing trees for timber in compatibility with other uses made of the area.
3. The harvesting of timber which can be used in many products.
4. The protection of watersheds and water quality.
5. The management of outdoor recreation without conflict to other uses.
6. The aesthetic value of the woodlands.

Thus, their value to future generations is multitudinous. The multiple resource management areas can provide another very important service to the public by acting as ecology and conservation education centers.

The need for modified ecological interpretation programs in these facilities throughout West Virginia has created an interest in using color aerial photography and satellite imagery to explain the different environmental considerations involved within a forest and the surrounding areas. The satellite imagery can be used to explain regional environmental considerations with aircraft imagery providing added detail.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT STAGES

1. Use satellite imagery to interpret the important environmental considerations within the boundaries of Cooper's Rock State Forest as well as the surrounding regional area.
2. Use color infrared aerial photography to gather more detail about the ecological interest areas interpreted from the satellite imagery.
3. Classify the information and organize it into categories which may be used as educational information for the public.
4. After the different interest areas have been established, arrange the material to show how each area is important to the total regional ecological system.
5. Establish an information center at Cooper's Rock to explain the important aspects of regional ecology which would be displayed on aerial photographs accompanied by some type of explanatory information.

METHODS OF OBTAINING INTERPRETIVE INFORMATION

- A. Use Satellite imagery
- B. Use aerial photography
- C. Gather information about the area from local authorities and available reference material.
- D. Ground survey work.

PARTICIPANTS INVOLVED IN ORGANIZING THE PROJECT

- A. Forestry Division people from DNR
  1. Superintendent of Cooper's Rock State Forest - Bennell White
  2. District Forester - Lowell McPherson
  3. Assistant State Forester - John Martin

- B. A LANDSAT Program representative
- C. W. V. U. ecology experts
  - 1. Dr. Baer
  - 2. Dr. Carvell
  - 3. Bill Wylie
  - 4. Dr. Core
- D. Two graduate students from W. V. U. Forestry School

SOURCES OF MONETARY OR SERVICE SUPPORT FOR THE PROJECT

- A. Department of Natural Resources
  - 1. LANDSAT Program - This program will donate such things as color infrared aerial photography, satellite imagery and technical assistance in training the project participants.
  - 2. Forestry Division - The Forestry Division could provide the Superintendent of Cooper's Rock State Forest and the District Forester as consultants for the project, and sponsor the displays consisting of glass and wooden cases which will be utilized to show the public the interpretive material.

B. West Virginia University

The Forestry School at W. V. U. will sponsor two graduate students to work on the project. Also the consulting professors from the University will donate their time to provide information about the study area.

Completion date for the project - October - December of 1977.

REMOTE SENSING WORKSHOP

Registration List

May 24-28, 1976

CHARLESTON

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 Charleston, WV 25301

Michael Annand

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Sanitary Engineer  
 U. S. Army Corps of Engineers  
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 M-156 State Capitol  
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Assistant Professor - Biology  
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James M. Ruckel

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Leslie E. Terry

U. S. Fish & Wildlife  
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Randy Underwood

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Harold Ward

Professor  
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 Marshall University  
 Huntington, WV 25701

Dave Winger

Associate Professor - Biology  
 Pardersburg Community College  
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 Parkersburg, WV 26101

9-5

REMOTE SENSING IMAGERY WORKSHOP

Registration List  
May 10-14, 1976

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9-6

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Gary W. Zinn  
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West Virginia University  
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Morgantown, West Virginia 26506

ORIGINAL PAGE IS  
OF POOR QUALITY

Friday

9:00-10:30 am.

The Land Use Data and  
Analysis Program of  
West Virginia  
(S. Roocring)

WORKSHOP COORDINATORS

Charles Baer  
Biology Department  
West Virginia University  
(S. Roocring)

10:30- 3:30 pm.

Field Trip  
Participants will be  
made for lunch. A  
comparison of imagery  
with cognitive features  
including ecologic  
soils, surface mining,  
vegetative cover, and  
land use.

INVITED SPEAKERS

Stephen T. Anderson, Staff Scientist  
Earth Resources Branch  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Don Richards  
User Affairs  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Charles Baer - Professor of Ecology: Biology Department, West Virginia University

Robert W. Campbell - Professor of Soil Chemistry, Geology, and Mineralogy, West Virginia University

Donald W. Eick - Associate Professor of Civil Engineering, West Virginia University

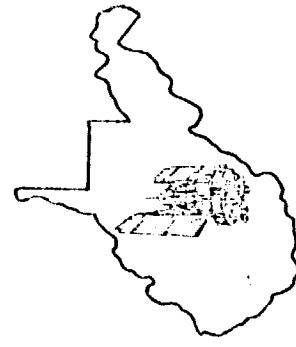
Michael Luke - LANDSAT Program Coordinator, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources

Keith Schmid - State Soil Scientist, USDA, Soil Conservation Service

Robert C. Stedje - Professor of Ecology and Geology, West Virginia University

Donald K. Turner - Graduate Assistant, Department of Biology and Geology, West Virginia University

THE WEST VIRGINIA LANDSAT  
REMOTE SENSING WORKSHOPS  
1976



Morgantown, May 10-14  
WVU  
Charleston, May 24-28  
DNR

\* Registration before April 26 - \$15.00  
after April 26 - \$20.00

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This WORKSHOP will deal with an up-to-date summary of remote sensing techniques, the current methods of producing useful read-outs in the forms of map overlays and quantitative parameters of surface features of various natural resources. At least half the time will be devoted to guided laboratory and field experience in interpretation of aerial photography and computerized imagery of West Virginia's surface. The participants should gain a working knowledge for obtaining suitable imagery and putting it to use in meeting the State's needs for coordinated resource inventories and conservative utilization for maximum benefits. Perhaps the most valuable outcome of this first West Virginia Remote Sensing Workshop will be the interaction of those using remote sensing with those who could be using remote sensing imagery.

\*Each workshop participant accepted will receive  
a certificate. Due to the limited room in each  
workshop, there will be only 12-15 participants  
accepted after April 26, 1976.

Location of WorkshopsMay 10-14, 1976

West Virginia University  
Percival Hall  
Room 317  
Morgantown, West Virginia 25605

May 24-28, 1976

Conference Center  
Building C, Room C  
1900 Washington Street, East  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Housing

Holiday Inn  
Monongalia Boulevard  
Morgantown, West Virginia  
Phone: 304-292-1680

Lakeview Inn and Country Club  
W. Va. Route 7 at Great Lake  
Morgantown, West Virginia  
Phone: 304-292-8101

Heart O' Town Motor Inn  
Broad and Washington Streets  
Charleston, West Virginia 25301

Holiday Inn #2  
600 Kanawha Boulevard, East  
Charleston, West Virginia 25302  
Phone: 304-344-4092

Workbook

A workbook containing a schedule of the program along with reference materials and other accessories will be distributed.

Handbook

A Remote Sensing Handbook containing copies of the lecture materials, aerial photos, and other reference information will be distributed after the workshop. These handbooks will provide background information on remote sensing projects.

Creditation

Those wishing to obtain one hour University credit, should contact Dr. Baer for registration instructions with West Virginia University.

WORKSHOP PROGRAMMonday8:00-10:00 a.m.Registration10:00-10:30 a.m.Wednesday9:00-10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements  
(Ira S. Latimer, Jr.)  
(Director DNR)

10:30-12:00 a.m.

An Introduction to Remote  
Sensing of Natural Re-  
sources  
(R. Macomber)

12:00- 1:30 p.m.Ecological Applications(C. Baer)Lunch1:30- 3:30 p.m.

Introduction to Remote  
Sensing Lab

3:30- 4:30 p.m.

Satellite and Aerial  
Imagery of West Virginia  
(S. Woodring)

6:00- 8:30 p.m.

Dinner and Guest Speaker  
(Dan Richards)  
(NASA)

Tuesday9:00-10:00 a.m.

Production of Orthophoto  
Maps (USGS)

10:00-11:00 a.m.

Soil Survey Lab  
Lunch

11:00-12:00 a.m.

Interpretation of  
Geological Features  
from Imagery  
(Ed Werner)

12:00- 1:30 p.m.

Lunch  
Geology Lab

1:30- 2:30 p.m.

A Remote Sensing Handbook containing copies of the lecture materials, aerial photos, and other reference information will be distributed after the workshop. These handbooks will provide background information on remote sensing projects.

Tuesday (cont.)

Civil Engineering  
Applications  
(R. Eck)

Engineering LabOpen SessionWednesday7:30 p.m.

The West Virginia  
LANDSAT Program  
(M. Luke)

Ecological Applications(C. Baer)Ecology LabLunch

Forestry Applications  
of Aerial Photography  
(K. Carveill)

Forestry LabOpen SessionThursday7:30 p.m.

Imagery and Aerial  
Photograph Applications  
for Soil Surveys  
(Keith Schmude)

Soil Survey LabLunch

LANDSAT Inventory of  
Surface Mined Areas  
(A. Anderson)

Surface Mining LabFilmSpecial Session7:30 p.m.